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lectors. I inclose a copy of instructions mailed. You will see that the certificate idea is to allow only immunes or nonexposed persons to come to any of these ports and to identify passengers from clean ports.

I have requested Assistant Surgeon Parker that the required certificates be issued at Santiago and Manzanillo to those entitled to them; each person will then have to have a certificate to land and those without certificates will be carried on to Batabano. This will, I think, be effective if properly carried out.

Respectfully, yours,

S. B. GRUBBS,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

CIENFUEGOS, CUBA, *July 19, 1899.*

SIR: I have to inform you that I have nominated you to be temporary quarantine officer, United States Marine-Hospital Service, at the port of Trinidad (Casilda), to date from July 15 at a salary of \$75 per month. * * * I send you by this mail some blanks to be issued to passengers coming from your port on the Menendez line. They need not be issued to those coming on the Independiente. The instructions are misleading, but are intended to apply only to passengers boarding vessels that have come from Santiago or Manzanillo, at present I believe only the Menendez boat. The object of this certificate plan is to shut out nonimmune Santiago passengers and to avoid delaying passengers from noninfected ports.

Respectfully, yours,

S. B. GRUBBS,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Dr. ALEJANDRO CANTERO, *Casilda, Cuba.*

Sanitary report from Cienfuegos—Quarantine of southern coast.

CIENFUEGOS, CUBA, *July 24, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Bureau letter of the 15th instant, instructing me to exercise quarantine supervision over all the ports on the southern coast of the provinces of Santa Clara and Puerto Principe.

As reported in my letter of the 19th instant, I had already taken certain steps toward the protection of the 4 other ports in this district, and can now report that all preliminary steps have been taken, and that the final adjustments will be made as soon as another officer comes here and I can visit the ports in person.

The difficulties on account of poor communication and no available physicians at Tunas and Jucaro have been considerable. Jucaro is an unimportant place, being only a subport in the Customs Service, but is important to us because the coastwise boat stops there. When I got word that there was no physician at this place, I sent my office messenger off on the weekly boat that was leaving in a few hours, to act as a sanitary guard. He will allow only certified passengers to land and will give identification certificates to those embarking on west-bound boats, but will, of course, make no inspections. This is intended for a temporary measure, but I doubt if this port requires more than such a guard.

For Tunas I nominated Dr. Francisco Ravello, of Cienfuegos, to be temporary quarantine officer, and had him assist in the work of the last steamer here from Santiago before he went to his station.

At Santa Cruz and Casilda I have nominated the men recommended by the collectors of customs at those ports. I have forwarded all these nominations to the Bureau in another letter.

I would state that the certification plan was very satisfactory on last Saturday's boat, and both passengers and baggage were handled smoothly from the anchorage in the bay.

Beginning next week, we shall have more than twice the number of passenger boats from these coast towns, for the Menendez line is to put on another boat, and another line to begin running between Batabano and Manzanillo, with a boat each way a week.

I inclose a copy of instructions given guard at Jucaro, also blank identification certificate issued to west-bound passengers.

Respectfully, yours,

S. B. GRUBBS,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

Instructions to sanitary guard at Jucaro.

1. Have Menendez boat, west bound, and any other boat from Manzanillo or Santiago carrying passengers from those points anchor in the bay and not come to wharf.

2. Go aboard boat before anyone leaves and require each passenger going ashore to give a properly made out certificate on one of inclosed forms or a special permit to land from Santiago or Manzanillo.

3. See that baggage of all Santiago passengers and of Americans from Manzanillo has the proper labels on it (either "Inspected" or "Disinfected"), and if not, do not allow it to go ashore.

4. Give to each passenger going aboard this vessel a certificate as per blanks furnished.

5. Stay at gangway of vessel all the time she is in port and see that no one leaves without a certificate and that no one comes on without getting one.

S. B. GRUBBS,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,

Directing Quarantines South Coast Puerto Principe and Santa Clara.

Sanitary report from Havana.

HAVANA, CUBA, July 24, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to submit my report on the sanitary condition of this port for the week ended July 24, 1899, together with the mortuary table of the city of Havana for the same period.

In view of the frequent comparisons of the present, and past sanitary condition of Havana, based on the mortuary data, more or less accurate, which have appeared from time to time in the press of the United States, it would seem to be interesting to mention some factors which must be considered in making such a comparison intelligently. It is not asserted that these factors, to be mentioned here, are all that are to be considered; nor do I pretend to accurately appreciate their effect on the bills of mortality.

(a) The years from 1895 to 1898 were the years of war. In 1897 and 1898 the city passed through a period of extreme suffering; insufficient and improper food for very many, and starvation for a large number; neglect of medical care for the sick, and insufficient and improper hospital accommodation, etc.

The effect of these conditions, which have passed, on the present death rate is from two factors. (1) A number of people are left in a weakened condition, and are less able to resist ordinary diseases. (2) A large proportion of the old people, those suffering from chronic maladies and those whose vitality was less than normal, died during this period, the survivors being those of greater than average natural vitality or better physical surroundings.